



The Woollacott Association NEWSLETTER

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From the chair

Chair Report for AGM - 25 July 2013

This is the 5th year the Woollacott Association has now been running. When we look back over the years there have been a number of tasks achieved, which is pleasing to see, with the highlights being the creation and updating of the website, preparation of a constitution for the Association, the integration with DYC for our racing schedule and five fine trophies.

One of the pleasing items to note is the numbers of members that have joined from around the world, altogether now 90, who are equally passionate about Woollacott boats. I do encourage you to visit fellow members when travelling around the world and share some stories and knowledge.

The awareness of Woollacott boats has definitely been raised, with future opportunities to work closer with the Classic Yacht Association and should we build our fleet to a reasonable level, they will also run some class races for us.

We are gaining a large collection of photos and some stories on the history of our boats, and this will become the main focus over the next few years as we head towards publishing a book devoted to Woollacott boats. We have Harold Kidd on standby to be the editor. It is now up to us to provide the content for our boats and follow up other Woollacott owners.

Prizing giving this year was well attended and a big thank you to Tony Armit who presented the trophies, which were cleaned up by Truant. We need to correct this situation during the coming sailing season and all make it of our mission to get out on the water for the four races that are being arranged for the Woollacott Association through DYC. I for one will be working hard to change this one sided situation!

It was pleasing to see Calm winning the Woollacott Cup during the DYC Duder Regatta and taking on the bigger yachts in the fleet. Just goes to show you that we can all have our day!

We have a very good Committee whom have plenty of ideas that we would like to action, though this does require participation of a larger number of boats to get in behind and get involved. The Committee also welcomes your ideas and point of view.

We do know of a number of Woollacott boats that are for sale and in need of some TLC, talk to your friends and bring them on board and get these boats back in the water where they belong!

Over the last 5 years we have only charged a Membership Fee on two occasions, with these going towards the running of the Website and Prize giving. The Committee now feels it is time to update everyone's membership to enable the continual running of our services and with our first AGM now underway to have more structure around our activities.

Our aim is to see many more Woollacott flags flying from yard arms this year.

Fair Winds

Mike Strong

Prize giving Night

Again it was a wonderful occasion for the Woollacott Association as prizes were presented in conjunction with Devonport Yacht Club's Prize giving. This was our third prize giving with our wonderful trophies being presented by Tony Armit (Builder/Owner/Skipper of Marco Polo). A few more Woollacotts competing would raise the stakes and provide more entertainment, so please consider joining in next season.

The winners were as follows;

1. Rocky Bay Race (Woollacott Logo Trophy) - Truant
2. Mahurangi Night Race (Moonlight Trophy) - Ladybird
3. Islington Bay Race (Rangitoto Trophy) - Truant
4. Woody Bay Race (not presented)

The overall winner for the Woollacott Series winning the Marco Polo Trophy was Truant.



Bill Rimmer accepts the Marco Polo trophy from Tony Armit



Members of the Woollacott Association enjoying the prize giving

CALENDER OF EVENTS 2013 -14 SEASON

Woollacott Series (in conjunction with Devonport Yacht Club)

| Event Date | Event Details |
|--|--|
| Thursday 10 October 2013 | Skippers Brief at the DYC - 1900 |
| Saturday 2 November 2013 | Waikarapupu Bay Race (Race 1 - Woollacott Logo trophy) and beach BBQ |
| Friday 24 January 2014 | Mahurangi Night Race) (Race 2 - Moonlight Trophy) |
| Saturday 25 January 2014 | Mahurangi Regatta (Lady Pat Trophy) |
| Saturday 8 February 2014 | Islington Bay Race (Race 3 - Rangitoto Trophy) and beach BBQ |
| Saturday 22 February 2014 | DYC Duder Cup Regatta (Woollacott Cup) |
| Saturday 22 March 2014 | Rocky Bay Race (Race 4 - Wooden Trophy) and Beach BBQ |
|  | |
| Friday 11 October 2013 | Woollacott Association dinner at the DYC - 1900 hrs (RSVP Mike Strong by 5 October) |
| Saturday 28 June 2014 | Prizegiving Night at DYC - 1930 hrs |
| Thursday 24 July 2014 | Woollacott Association AGM - 1930 hrs |

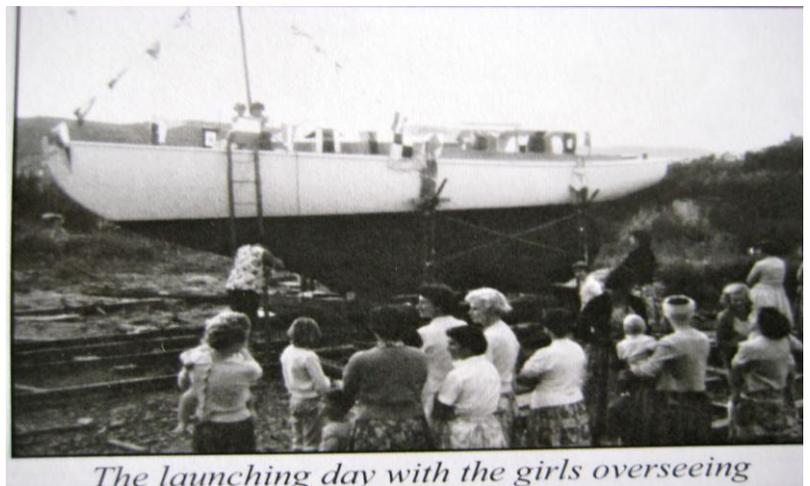
Reality Memories

A few years ago Lucy gave my Mum a book she had written about her life to read. I remember cruising with Lucy and Alan around the Bay of Islands and them visiting. The following is taken from her book, "Keeping Up With Lucy" a true story by Lucy Ferner. Reality was launched on 10 December 1959 in Whangarei. Alan and Lucy Ferner had sold their previous boat for 475 pounds so they could start building their dream boat, a 32ft Woollacott, Kathryn Ann design. Alan's firm had an empty shed where they decided to start a boat yard with Claude Smith a boat builder who had offered to help build the boat. Alan left work at 5pm and started getting busy building the boat, while Claude was able to

help when the weather was unsuitable for outside work. Lucy joined the workforce with dinner and after the girls had been put to bed, one across the front and one across the back seats of their little Ford 10 car. They installed a Ford 10 motor, which was reliable for years. When asked how long it took to build, Alan would reply "just a normal pregnancy of 9 months." They were also advised that they were mad to launch her before she was finished as it would take another 10 years to finish her. Lucy and Alan proved them all wrong as it took another 20 years but they had 48 years sailing and enjoying the northern coastline before selling her. Lucy and Alan now live in Kamo and have lots of fond memories of sailing on Reality. (Dot Woollacott)



Planking growing higher



The launching day with the girls overseeing



On our lovely Reality

A moment from the Past

These are notes made by Bert Woollacott, for a radio talk in April 1952 and give an insight into his life.

| | | |
|--------|------------|------------------------|
| 1921-2 | Rival | 7 April 14 |
| 1923 | Rover | Father - Maidenhead |
| 1929 | Vectis | Dartmouth |
| 1931 | Medina | Philip & Son |
| 1933 | Rambler | Vigo |
| 1936 | Ghost | Lascious Oporto |
| 1941 | Wanderer | Lisbon |
| 1947 | May | Pernambuco |
| 1948 | Little May | Bahiha |
| 1950 | Ladybird | Rio |
| | | Santos Captain a devil |
| | | Bueno Ayres |
| | | New York |

Apprenticed to Philip & Son

1846 "Ada" 14ft. School at Maidenhead 12ft for birthday
first sail with a strong wind, ran to Clevedon Islands, ran on shore.

"Valerian" 1st rater, sailed round course, only boat to finish.

"Sea Urchin" 14ft to Channel Islands

"Lone Star", "Nanette"

Went to South American in 1906 Buenos Ayres

Solent one design "Nanette"

Friends my intention is. I wish to tell you of that which could be called 'Rambles without reasons'. In 1896 I was working at Dartmouth at Philip's shipyard. All my spare time was spent with the sailing ships, which came to the port from the Continent and with the fishing boats and came to know most of them. At last a schooner agreed to take me to Vigo, it only cost 10/- for food, but I worked the passage. As it was in the fall, had a good trip, about ten days. Landed at Vigo and walked out in the country, not caring where I went, at last decided to go to Laocious, Oporto and get a boat home, took about 7 weeks, stopping anywhere.

Two years after went to Lisbon, topsail schooner and followed the former practice, in the end came back to Oporto and had another trip home.

In 1907 went in mail boat to Pernambaco in Brazil, stayed there a time and then worked my way down to Rio, stayed for time, then on to Bahia, out and down to Santos (home of yellow fever) stayed about 5 weeks, then on to Buenos Ayres, was here some time, then made a member of a party to explore in the back of Brazil, three weeks out, two weeks home, came through Rosania, pampas grass a great sight, back to B. A. at last. Worked a passage home in 'La Blanco'.

In 1911 Hilda and I decided to go to Australia but ship ran on rocks, so went to New York instead on 'Oceanic'. Home 'Lusitania' (booked on 'Lusitania' but cancelled due to non arrival of parts for hydroplane) Back to England 1915.

Boats for Sale

Please follow this link to a selection of Woollacott boats for sale:

<http://www.woollacott.org.nz/For%20Sale.htm>

Merchandise

The Woollacott House Flag order form is available on the website. Follow this link for details: <http://www.woollacott.org.nz/Merchandise.htm>

If you have any stories and memories to share please send them to Dot, dottynz@gmail.com for inclusion in the next newsletter, thanks.

Can you name this boat?

